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<u>REMARKS</u>

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 3 and 4.

A new abstract page is supplied to conform to that appearing on the publication page of the WIPO application, but the new Abstract is typed on a separate page as required by U.S. practice.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Marked-up Copy".

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Natalie D Kadievitch (Reg. No. 34,196), at (612) 336.4706.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 25 September 2001

Natalie D. Kadievitch Reg. No. 34,196

NDK:hjh

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- 3. A storage container for a weakly acidic solution formulation in accordance with [either claim 1 or 2,] claim 1, wherein the elution rate of said polyvalent metal ions is 20 ppm or less.
- 4. A storage container for a weakly acidic solution formulation in accordance with [any one of claims 1-3,] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein said polyvalent metal ions are zinc ions or aluminum ions.